

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3847
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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC
SUBJ: NUNN AMENDMENT REPORT, DECLASSIFICATION OF TABLE ON PAGE 6

REF: STATE 229600 DTG 252338Z SEP 75

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF LETTER FROM UK DELEGATION REP (BEAUMONT) IN RESPONSE TO MISSION REQUEST FOR VIEWS ON PROPOSED DECLASSIFICATION OF TABLE ON PAGE 6 OF NUNN AMENDMENT NUCLEAR REPORT (REFTEL). WE WILL PROVIDE VIEWS OF OTHER ALLIES BY SEPTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF LETTER:
SUMMARY OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT CONVENTIONAL FORCES

1. THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME KNOW IN YOUR LETTER OF 20 SEPTEMBER OF THE UNCLASSIFIED VERSION OF THE SUMMARY OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT CONVENTIONAL FORCES, WHICH IS TO BE PROVIDED TO CONGRESS ON 1 OCTOBER. I HAVE NOW RECEIVED MY AUTHORITIES' VIEWS UPON IT.

2. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT UPON THE PROPOSED SUMMARY. WHILE WE COULD SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO PUBLISH, IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NUNN REPORT, AN UNCLASSIFIED SET OF FIGURES COMPARING NATO WITH WARSAW PACT FORCES, WE WOULD NOT BE HAPPY IF THIS PARTICULAR SET OF FIGURES WAS PUBLISHED AS IT STANDS. ALTHOUGH THEY INCLUDE FORCES OUTSIDE THE MBFR GUIDELINES

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AREA, THE FIGURES, AND THE WAY THEY ARE PRESENTED, CREATE AN IMPRESSION OF NATO'S SITUATION WHICH COULD PREJUDICE THE ALLIANCE NEGOTIATING POSITION IN MBFR. THEY COULD ALSO PROVIDE AMMUNITION FOR EUROPEAN POLITICIANS WHO ARE DISPOSED TO ARGUE FOR

REDUCTIONS IN DEFENCE BUDGETS.

3. IN ADDITION, THE FIGURES USED IN THE SUMMARY APPEAR TO BE
SELECTED ON AN ARBITRARY BASIS AND NOT TO COMPARE LIKE WITH
LIKE (FOR EXAMPLE, US-BASED REINFORCEMENTS ARE INCLUDED BUT NOT
EQUIVALENT REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE USSR). THE FIGURES DO NOT
ACCORD WITH THOSE PUBLISHED IN THE UK DEFENCE WHITE PAPER OR WITH
THOSE MADE AVAILABLE FROM TIME TO TIME IN OUR PARLIAMENT. ALSO,
THE FIGURES IN THE SUMMARY COULD BE TAKEN TO ANTICIPATE THE
OUTCOME OF THE MCSSG CONVENTIONAL BALANCE STUDY, AND YOU MIGHT
CARE TO CONSULT THE MCSSG CHAIRMAN ON THIS POINT. END TEXT.

STREATOR

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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